ATLANTA, GEORGIA

A RESOLUTION BY

01-7 -0222

COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL BOND, Clata Winslow

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING BODY TO ESTABLISY A TAX LIEN SALE COMMISSION AND TO REQUEST THAT THE MAYOR CONVENE A MEETING IN FEBRUARY, 2001 WITH CITY OF ATLANTA OFFICIALS, CITY OF DEKALB COUNTY OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE IN ORDER TO DISCUSS A PROCESS FOR EXCLUDING THE TAX LIENS ON PROPERTIES OF SENIOR CITIZENS FROM BEING AUTOMATICALLY SOLD TO THIRD PARTIES; TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS OF REVIEW BY AN APPOINTED BODY COMPOSED OF THESE JURISDICTIONS BEFORE ANY SENIOR CITIZENS' PROPERTY IS SOLD; TO INQUIRE INTO THE AMOUNT OF FEES ALLOWED TO BE ADDED TO THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT TAX LIEN AMOUNT; TO INQUIRE INTO THE PROCESS BY WHICH HOMEOWNERS ARE NOTIFIED OF THE ORIGINAL TAX LIENS TO ASSURE THAT THESE HOMEOWNERS ARE RECEIVING APPROPRIATE NOTICE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City of Atlanta is receiving numerous complaints, particularly from senior citizens, of tax liens that are sold to numerous buyers while simultaneously increasing the amount of the tax lien; and

WHEREAS, these senior citizens and other low income persons, after having difficulty paying the original amount of taxes, find it impossible to pay the tax liens once the amount is greatly inflated through each subsequent sale to buyers of these tax liens; and

WHEREAS, homeowners have complained that they suspect that the inflated prices of the liens may be illegal and should be investigated by the appropriate governing bodies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta is interested in determining if the practices surrounding the sale of these tax liens has inappropriately deprived long time homeowners, particularly our senior citizens, the ability to maintain ownership of their properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA as follows:

**SECTION 1.** 

To authorize the governing body to establish a Tax Lien Sale Commission and to request that the Mayor convene a meeting in February, 2001 composed of City Of Atlanta officials, City Of Dekalb County officials, members of the Fulton County Board Of Commissioners and the Tax Assessor's Office in order to discuss a process for excluding the tax liens on properties of senior citizens from being automatically sold to third parties.

### **SECTION 2.**

To establish a process of review by an appointed body composed of these jurisdictions before any senior citizens' property is sold.

## **SECTION 3.**

That this appointed body shall inquire into the amount of fees allowed to be added to the original amount tax lien amount, particularly when sold multiple times, and that they inquire into the process by which homeowners are notified of the original tax liens to assure that these homeowners are receiving appropriate notice.

### **SECTION 4.**

That a report of this appointed body with appropriate recommendations be submitted to the Council and the Mayor no later than June 1, 2001.

#### **SECTION 5.**

That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

A true copy, Phonda Lauphin Johnson Municipal Clerk, CMC

ADOPTED by the Council APPROVED by the Mayor

FEB 19, 2001 FEB 24, 2001





# Atlanta City Council

## Regular Session

01-R-0222 Est. Tax Lien Sale Commission regarding tax lines on Senior Citizens' properties
ADOPT

YEAS: 14
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0
NOT VOTING: 2
EXCUSED: 0
ABSENT 0

Y McCarty Y Dorsey Y Moore Y Thomas Y Starnes Y Woolard Y Martin Y Emmons Y Alexander Y Bond Y Morris Y Maddox Y Winslow Y Boazman NV Pitts NV Muller

Committee Date Chair Referred to Committee
Action: Action: Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) Other:
Members  Authoritiee  Committee
Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) Other: Members
Refer To